

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of this application as amended. Claims 1, 3-7, 10-13, 24, 26-30, 33-36, 47, 51, 56-59, 62-63, 72-74, and 77-78 are pending in the application. Claims 1, 24, 34, 47, 56, and 72 have been amended without introducing any new matter.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 101

Claims 1, 24, 56, and 72 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101 as being directed to non-statutory subject matter. Applicants have amended claims 1, 24, 56, and 72 to further clarify the technological arts for the invention. Claims 1, 24, 56, and 72 as amended recite computerized methods and computerized systems, respectively. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to withdraw the rejection.

Claims 3-7, 10-13, 26-30, 33-36, 57-59, 62-63, 73-74, and 77-78 depend, directly or indirectly, from the independent claims 1, 24, 56, and 72, respectively. Claims 3-7, 10-13, 26-30, 33-36, 57-59, 62-63, 73-74, and 77-78 include the limitations set forth in their respective base claims, and thus, contain statutory subject matter for at least the reason discussed above with respect to claims 1, 24, 56, and 72. Withdrawal of the rejections is respectfully requested.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 1, 3-7, 10-13, 24, 26-30, 33-36, 47, 51, 56-59, 62-63, 72-74, and 77-78 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,449,598

by Gordon M. Green (“Green”) in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,490,619 of Debora J. Byrne (“Byrne”), and further in view of Christian Mayaud (U.S. Patent No. 5,845,255).

Applicants respectfully traverse the rejections.

Specifically, claim 1 as amended includes the limitation, or a limitation similar thereto, of:

... determining the first user’s organizational identifier **in response to the search request**, ...

(Applicants’ Independent Claim 1 as amended, ln. 5-6; emphasis added).

In contrast, none of the cited references, Green, Byrne, and Mayaud, discloses the above limitations. According to Green, user attributes are *defined when the system is set up* (Green, col. 5, ln. 54 – col. 6, ln.15). Furthermore, the system in Green controls access to documents by requiring each user to enter a User ID and a password to *log in* to the system (Green, col. 9, ln. 39-45). Thus, Green fails to disclose determining the first user’s organizational identifier *in response to the search request containing search criteria*. At most, Green merely suggests determining a user’s attributes previously defined in response to a log-in request. Furthermore, Byrne and Mayaud fail to make up the deficiencies of Green. Byrne merely discloses that a search to locate a server in a distributed LDAP network can be based on organization (Byrne, col. 8, ln. 18-29; Abstract). Mayaud merely discloses centrally inputting at the host computer facility patient-generated record-access specifications to determine which user organizations can access what data (Mayaud, col. 18, ln. 5-11). Therefore, a combination of Green, Byrne, and Mayaud does not include at least the above limitation of claim 1 discussed above.

For at least this reason, claim 1 is patentable over Green, Byrne, and Mayaud. Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection.

Furthermore, it is respectfully submitted that claim 1 is patentable over Green, in view of Byrne and Mayaud because there is no motivation for one of ordinary skill in the art to combine these references. Contrary to the Examiner's assertion that the system in the primary reference, Green, has "intended broad application" (Office Action, p. 6, line 3), Green explicitly stated that its disclosure is particularly related to "an on-line software based system which stores health care policy documents" (Green, col. 1, lines 5-10). As for the secondary reference, Byrne, the reference is directed to a method for locating a server in a distributed network using the Lightweight Directory Access Protocol (LDAP), maintaining information for the server, displaying a tree of servers, browsing the tree of servers, and searching the tree of servers for an entry with specific attributes (Byrne, abstract). The on-line software based system which stores health care policy documents and the method for locating and maintaining information for servers are in *two distinct and separate fields*. Moreover, the current application is directed to customer relationship management, which is not related to either of the fields to which Green and Byrne are directed to. Therefore, one of ordinary skill in the art would not have been motivated to look into Green and Byrne for a solution to the problem solved by Applicants. For at least the above reason, claim 1 is patentable over Green, in view of Byrne and Mayaud. Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection.

Claims 24, 47, 56, and 72 are patentable over Green, in view of Byrne and Mayaud for at least the reasons discussed above with respect to claim 1. Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection.

The remaining claims 3-7, 10-13, 26-30, 33-36, 51, 57-59, 62-63, 73-74, and 77-78 depend, directly or indirectly, from the independent claims 1, 24, 47, 56, and 72, respectively. Therefore, claims 3-7, 10-13, 26-30, 33-36, 51, 57-59, 62-63, 73-74, and 77-78 are patentable over the cited references for at least the reasons discussed above with respect to claim 1. Withdrawal of the rejections is respectfully requested.

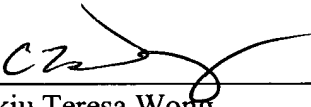
CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully submit that the rejections have been overcome by the remarks, and that the claims are now in condition for allowance. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request the rejections be withdrawn and the claims be allowed.

If there are any additional charges, please charge Deposit Account No. 02-2666 for any fee deficiency that may be due.

Respectfully submitted,
BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR & ZAFMAN LLP

Date: July 22, 2005



Chui-kiu Teresa Wong
Attorney for Applicants
Reg. No. 48,042

12400 Wilshire Boulevard
Seventh Floor
Los Angeles, California 90025-1026
(408) 720-8300